GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1107
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2017
Arrest of Fishermen
Chaudhury Shri Jitendra

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 100 fishermen were apprehended and 18 fishing trawlers seized by the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) off the Jakhau coast in Gujarat and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is second such incident this month, earlier 115 fishermen and 19 boats were detained by the Pakistan agency during fishing expedition along the IMBC; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

????? ????? ?????? (??. ????? ?????)
(a) to (c): As per available information with Ministry of External Affairs, as on 1st July 2017, there are 494 Indian believed to be Indian Fishermen in Pakistan Jails. Out of 494 fishermen, 77 were released/ repatriated on 10th July 2017. As per the available information there are 975 fishermen boats in Pakistan's custody. Government consistently takes up the issue concerning the release of all Indian fishermen and their boats in Pakistani custody with Government of Pakistan at all appropriate levels regularly. An India-Pakistan Judicial Committee has also been set up consisting of retired judges from both countries to ensure humane treatment and expeditious release of fishermen imprisoned in Pakistan jail, who have completed their prison term. High Commission of India, Islamabad, on a continuing basis, monitors the status of Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails and takes up the matter with the Government of Pakistan for their early release and return of their boats. Further, Indian Coast Guard provides assistance to Indian fishermen at sea while they are in distress through regular patrolling. It also conducts Community Interaction Programmes to sensitize fishermen among other issues on the perils of cross border fishing. Regular surveillance sorties and patrols by Indian Coast Guard / Indian Naval ships & aircrafts are undertaken.
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